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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Assistant Director for Intelligence Coordination DATE: 20 FEB 1951

FROM : Assistant Director for Research and Reports

SUBJECT: Status of Intelligence Production in the IAC Agencies

REFERENCE: Memorandum from Chief, COAPS, CIA, to Standing Committee Members of the IAC, subject, Status Reports of Intelligence Production, dated 10 March 1950

1. In early 1950, O/RE sought the assistance of COAPS in the establishment of a system for the exchange of information among the various intelligence agencies concerning the initiation of intelligence reports and estimates. In April 1950, the IAC Standing Committee agreed to try a system of exchanging project initiation information. In order to get the system established, O/RE undertook to publish a monthly summary of the projects reported by the other agencies as well as projects initiated by CIA. This system is continuing under O/RR without further formalization.

2. The present system has proved to be inadequate in several respects:

a. Some agencies have been slow and overly selective in reporting the projects they have initiated.

b. With the exception of the Department of State, negotiations with the other agencies were carried on through COAPS which made it difficult for O/RE to establish close contact and complete understanding with the persons implementing the responsibilities of the other agencies under the system.


c. The system does not show how work on a given project is progressing, whether it has been cancelled, or if it has been completed.

3. O/RR could use to considerable advantage a periodic report of all intelligence production in the IAC agencies showing projects initiated, progress of projects under way, and projects completed. Such a report would probably be of benefit to other components of CIA and to the other IAC agencies as well. We feel, however, that the preparation of such a report could be undertaken more appropriately by some other component of CIA. We would be glad to provide advice and assistance in connection with coverage of the economic items.

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4. It is recommended, therefore, that O/IC study the possibility of having a periodic report prepared showing the status of intelligence production in the IAC agencies. O/RR, meantime, will continue the report of projects initiated on its present basis, and will be prepared to dis-continue the report or turn over its files in accordance with the recommendations of your Office.

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